

FAQ for Dental Specialty Trainees during current Covid-19 situation

1. Courses and Funding

- Please be assured that reimbursement of any approved funding for cancelled training will be honoured for trainees who have already incurred expenses
- There will not be approval for any new courses at the current time as all non-essential training has been suspended

2. Recruitment

- Face to face recruitment has been cancelled. It is planned that recruitment will continue although the exact nature of the process is yet to be determined

3. Loss of clinical training time

- Whilst there is likely to be loss of core clinical training time, trainees should take the opportunity to engage in and to record experiences which offer transferable skills. It is expected that the situation will offer significant leadership and management opportunities. In addition, any non-clinical time should be used constructively for ongoing governance, audit and QI projects. With agreement, working from home at certain times may be appropriate to comply with advice regarding social distancing
- Trainees should also be mindful that non-direct clinical time accumulated during this period may be compensated for as the situation resolves in order to address the significant clinical backlog that will be accumulated

4. Undertaking clinical procedures

- Please follow the most up to date NHS guidance in the country you work

5. ARCPs

- As per national guidance adapted for Dental Trainees



6. Exam cancellation

- Trainees who have had examinations cancelled will continue to be supported. If the new date of the examination takes them beyond their CCST date, training will be extended to accommodate this with a view to award of an outcome 6 if appropriate immediately after the exam results are known
- Trainees on run through will be eligible to count training time and experiences from their original CCT to the rescheduled exam sitting towards their post CCST training



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_doctors_in_training.p

7. Redeployment

- Consideration of redeployment of trainees is appropriate in exceptional circumstances such as this
- You continue to be an employee of your employing organisation. As such you may be requested to redeploy to meet the needs of patients
- If the situation changes and a call is made for all healthcare workers to be mobilised to work in acute settings, then all salaried NHS employees who are risk free, including trainees will be expected to engage accordingly
- Trainees should not be compelled to redeploy but if they do, they should be appropriately inducted, trained and appropriately supervised

8. Pastoral Care

- Pastoral care will be vital during this difficult time
- This should be through your CS, ES and TPD. It should also be available at your trust through the Department of Medical Education and if this is not possible, through your responsible Associate Dental Dean

9. What should I do now study days have been cancelled?

- In time if appropriate you will be set specific and individually tailored learning requirements by your ES/TPD that will need to be met. We will also try to offer virtual alternatives via access to webinars
- Please take ownership of the requirement to demonstrate that you are acquiring the necessary profession / clinical skills and knowledge

10. Should I be in work now study days have been cancelled?

- Yes, you should attend your normal place of work and undertake appropriate duties as determined by your clinical line manager

11. I am self-isolating. Who should I inform?

- Your employer/ES and your TPD in writing. Please keep them updated about your wellbeing

12. I am self-isolating but have no symptoms - what should I do?

- If you are self-isolating due to contact with someone symptomatic, you can continue to work remotely
- The expectation is to work from home on your portfolio, undertake self-directed learning or any specific other/additional tasks or projects
- As trainees, you will all continue to be remunerated and it is important to use this time wisely and respectfully
- The requirement to demonstrate that you are acquiring the necessary profession / clinical skills and knowledge can continue when practicable

13. I am self-isolating and have symptoms - what should I do?

- Please follow current government guidance and self-isolate for seven days if you develop symptoms
- Stay at home if you have either:
 - a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
 - a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
- Use the 111 online coronavirus service to find out what to do <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>
- If you have symptoms of coronavirus, you'll need to stay at home for 7 days
- If you live with someone who has symptoms, you'll need to stay at home for 14 days from the day the first person in the home started having symptoms
- If you live with someone who is 70 or over, has a long-term condition, is pregnant or has a weakened immune system, try to find somewhere else for them to stay for 14 days
- If you must stay at home together, try to keep away from each other as much as possible
- If you live with someone who has symptoms, you should self-isolate for fourteen days and if you develop symptoms during this time revert to a seven-day self-isolation and the advice above.

- For updated information, see the link
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

14. If I am pregnant, should I carry on treatment as normal?

- Please follow the RCOG guidance and BDA guidance found here
 - i. <https://www.rcog.org.uk/coronavirus-pregnancy>
 - ii. <https://www.bda.org/advice/Coronavirus/Pages/faqs.aspx>
- It is essential you contact your local Occupational Health and have a full risk assessment carried out, with the consideration that dental professionals have a slightly higher risk of catching airborne viruses due to certain dental procedures



HEE Supporting
pregnant trainees Cov

Dr James Spencer

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